NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET. JAMES GORDON BENNETT

PROPRIETOR.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Bouston streets. Black Crook. BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery-Turough BY DAY. ST. JAMES' THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broad-

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway. THE BALLET PAN-AIMER'S OPERA BOUFFR, No. 720 Broadway.-LES BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third st., corner Sixth av. -

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street. -GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 5th av. and 23d st.

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 36th st. -Performances afternoon and evening. -On Hand. MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE. PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn.-

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Brondway. - COMIC VOCAL-UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broad-TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery. --BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 284 st., between 6th

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Broadway .-PAVILION, No. 688 Broadway.—THE VIENNA LADY OB-

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.-ScenEs IN SOMERVILLE ART GALLERY, 82 Fifth avenue .- Ex-

LEAVITT ART ROOMS, No. 817 Broadway .- EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS. NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway .-

TRIPLE SHEET

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THE COLD SNAP which is now upon us is a touch from the Russian winter they are enjoying on the snow-covered Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. These westerly winds, in a mild form, tell us how it is on the prairies of Kansas and Nebraska.

BLACEBURN, THE CHILLICOTHE MURDERER, has escaped with his life, after a long and patient trial, and every argument in his favor has been completely exhausted, leaving the facts plain and unmistakable that he took his mistress (Lovell) to a lonely spot, and, after giving her polsoned wine, left her to die. The law of Ohio would doubtless warrant a more terrible fate, but it is some consolation to know that he has not been allowed to escape altogether on that inevitable plea, "insanity."

"THE HERALD ON THE NILE" is the caption of a letter from the HERALD's correspondent now pursuing his course into the interior of Africa. The departure from Cairo and the preparations to push into the interior are described in the communication referred to, and which is published on another page. The Viceroy, with his characteristic enterprise, not only affords every facility for the undertaking, but munificently aids it, well knowing that the results (likely to accrue will redound to the advantage fof Egypt and add to the general information of mankind regarding the interior of Africa.

The Legislature of the State of New York has now been in session four weeks, and all the business it has perfected can be summed up in two bills—the one authorizing the city of New York to raise the amount necessary to meet her immediate financial necessities without going to protest; the other to create a temporary Board of Audit and Apportionment in New York on a principle that is very likely to meet the obstruction of an Executive veto. Few persons conversant with the ordinary process of legislation shared in the delusion of the impracticable reformers who beieved that the assembling of our representatives at the State Capitol was to be the signal for the immediate inauguration of a millennium of official honesty and purity; yet every one had a right to suppose that a Legislature elected on a direct reform issue, and in which the republican party had secured a threefourths majority, would at least have set earnestly at work upon some of those reformatory measures that were advocated so loudly and promised so liberally by the republican organs before election. It is true that the question of reform is so curlously embarrassed by its professed champions that a legislator might well be puzzled what course to pursue. The political factions, eager to secure some advantage for themselves out of the late wonderful revolution at the ballot box, view the duty of the apostles of official regeneration in very different lights from their several standpoints. The Conklingites in this clity can see no virtue in any measure that does not root out of official existence John Cochrane, Van Nort, Hank Smith, Manierre and all who are supposed to cling to the fortunes of Senator Fenton: while the Fentonites are not satisfied with any movement that is calculated to advance the interests or increase the power of the friends of Senator Conkling. The force of the majority is thus frittered away piecemeal, for the squabbles of these spoils-hunting cliques extend all over the State. In the matter of inquiries into past misdeeds the same divergence of opinions exists. A Fenton organ is virtuously indignant at the discovery that the Clerk of the Senate has received four thousand dollars from an Albany printing firm as a sort of percentage for "proof reading" or some other service, and calls loudly for an investigation into Senator James Wood's banking transactions with the "Boss," both the Clerk and the Senator being what is known as Conkling men. The Conkling organs, per contra, are innocently ignorant of any official misconduct on the part of these worthies, but are equally persistent in demanding the investigation of every Fenton partisan who has ever been suspected of taking a bribe for his vote. It is the old story over again: investigate, expose and reform every party except our own party, and every party man except ourselves. The politicians can discover no corruption among their own friends,

but are all the more sensitive to the failings

of their opponents.

When the reform agitation was at fever heat, the HERALD warned the people of New York that the object of the political wire-pullers who had taken the management of the movement in hand was rather to accomplish a party purpose than to promote the public good, and the result justified the prediction. But for the action of the Grand Jury of the General Sessions there would not have been a pretence, after the election, of bringing the parties implicated in the city frauds to justice, and the end of the turmoil would have been the customary dickerings and bargainings for the future division of the spoils. We now, in like manner, place on record the further prediction that the present State Legislature will prove faithless to all its professions of reform. and will be found at its close to have been as venal as any of its predecessors. From the first moment of its meeting the lobby has been as bold in its approaches to members as it ever was when the money of the Tammany and Erie Rings was poured almost openly into the pockets of Senators and Assemblymen. The organization of the Assembly, it is true, was carried against the undisguised wishes of the lobby by the vigorous efforts of the federal office-holders and the influence of the Republican Central Committee: but as there are wheels within wheels so there are rings within rings, and it now turns out, through the developments of the enormous printing swindles and kindred jobs at Albany, that as many lobby agencies were at work to secure the result as were engaged in the fruitless endeavor to defeat it. Ex-Speaker Alvord, beaten in the canvass for his old position, has since proved his superior strength upon the floor, and Speaker Smith has been left in a minority. It is not difficult to see how this reversal has been brought about. There are now two powers at work at the State Capitol. the Eric Ring and the Canal Ring-the latter one of the most effective and dangerous combinations ever perfected-to control the legislation of the present session. The object of both is a negative one-to prevent any hostile legislation. Like the Confederates in the days of the rebellion, they both desire to be let alone. The one holds in its hands the property of the stockholders of a large and important corporation and enriches itself at the expense of its victims, the other boldly robs the State of millions annually, and, through its money and its agents, controls the conventions of both political parties and insures the nomination of State officers who are bound to continue its lease of power and aid it in plundering the people. These rings have combined their forces for mutual protection, and, with the democratic minority, hold a majority of both branches of the Legislature. They stood by Mr. Alvord in his fight against the Speaker on the Audit and Apportionment bill, and they will stand by him not only to prevent any encroachment on their own privileges,

but in any bargain that may eventually be

made in the matter of our city charter. Their

money will be used, if necessary, to retain the

position they now hold, and the probability

is that their influence will protect all against

whom any charges are pending or may here-

after be made. Their sympathies are natu-

rally with the Alvord phalanx, and they are

opposed upon principle to holding public

officers to accountability for their acts. In the midst of all this personal intrigue

the factional divisions in the republican party have hitherto held a secondary rank, although they have been purposely dragged into the contest, and must soon occupy a prominent position in the legislative battles. At present it appears certain that the friends of Senator Fenton-the administration "outs"have a majority of the Assembly, while the Senate is apparently pretty evenly divided. It must be remembered, however, that a majority of the Senators are more or less interested, directly or indirectly, in the federal offices, either through the New York Custom House, the Washington departments or the Internal Revenue Bureau, and are unwilling to quarrel with their own bread and butter or with that of their relatives and friends, until they discover a fair chance of bettering themselves in the operation. Put squarely to a vote, without any selfish considerations, and there is little doubt that a majority of the Senate, if not opposed to Grant's renomination, would be found hostile to the return of Roscoe Conkling to the United States Senate. But the influences we have mentioned are sufficiently strong to hold them in the traces until after the Republican National Convention shall have concluded its work, when they will fall in enthusiastically under the Grant banner, provided it shall be unfurled for another campaign. Whether they will be found equally ready to support the flowery young orator of Oneida for another term is more doubtful. He is not popular in the State, and treachery is already at work in the ranks of his supposed adherents. General John H. Ketcham, of Dutchess, at present Congressman from the Twelfth district, is ambitious of Senatorial honors, and will unquestionably bring his military record and his personal popularity into the field against Senator Conkling at the proper time. The prominent position accorded to the State Senator from the General's county on the standing committees at Albany was designed to aid such a movement. But these intrigues belong to the future, and the bone of contention at the State Capitol between the "ins" and the "outs" will at present he the control of republican local organization in the city of New York. Upon this really depends the control of the conventions and the nominations of the party, and upon this depends, also, the important question of the federal spoils in this city. The Conkling-Murphy faction, with the Committee of Seventy and Comptroller Green at their backs. are striving to obtain power at the next charter election and such a share of the municipal patronage as will give them the upper hand of their opponents and enable them to secure the advantages they have gained through the weight of the federal offices. The Fenton-Greeley organization, on the other hand, seeks, by a combination with the Alvord forces and the Erie and Canal Rings at Albany, to consummate such a bargain as will leave our municipal matters without much personal change, and give them, through Van Nort in the Department of Public Works, with increased powers, and Hank Smith in the Police Commission, the strength to rally against the Custom House and re-establish their old organization in the city and their old power in the State conventions. Upon these issues the future struggle over the city charter will turn, and, from present appearances, we are inclined to believe that the Fenton side will come the best out of the fight. This cannot affect the renomination of General Grant for the Presidency, but it can and will affect the question so important to these squabbling politicians, of the distribution of the federal pap for the next four years. In the meantime, all this snarling and fighting and bargaining and dickering among the factions, rings and lobbyists will open the eyes of the eople to the fraud and humbug of reform.

The British War Against the Looshais in India-Sharp Fighting and Losses on

By telegram from Bombay we learn that the British army expedition, which was lately organized in and sent forth from Cachar against the insurgent Looshais, has met and engaged the enemy. The attack, which was made last Friday, was sharp, and, for the moment, effectual, but not decisive, on behalf of the English. The Looshais suffered severely, according to our telegram report, and the English had four men killed and others wounded. General Bourchier, who commands Queen Victoria's forces, sus-tained personal injuries. This war against the Looshais is a very serious undertaking, and will constitute quite an event in Anglo-Indian bistory. The entire line of the northwestern frontier of the empire is already agitated by reason of the preparations which were made for the campaign. It will become still more deeply inflamed as the news of the progress of the struggle reaches the inhabtants; and if, by any chance, the Cross of St. George should be lowered in the field it would require Napier of Magdala himself, with all his Abyssinian experiences, to restore order and uphold the authority of the Crown.

Fully impressed with this same conviction the English authorities have gone about their work of army muster and column advance carefully, slowly, methodically and with almost every possible contingency estimated and provided for, from great guns to the field telegraph. This great fact is made patent by the record, with which we specially illustrate our news despatch from Bombay. There is little doubt but that British "pluck" will triumph in the end, and that the warlike Looshais will be "civilized" eventually, as have been all the Asiatics of military propensities from Tippoo Saib to Akbar-Khan and Runjeet-Sing. The Looshai country will be "opened" to military marches, education and commerce as were the Khyber Pass and the Valley of the Punjaub.

A COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION from Congress is now in New Orleans at work on the rumpus between the Warmoth and the Carter factions of the Legislature there. From present indications it is possible that before long a similar investigation will be needed among our reformers at Albany.

HE DON'T KNOW .- Mr. Tweed said yesterday, "I don't know whether I shall go up to Albany to-day or to-morrow." Who, then, can settle this question for him, when he don't know how it is himself?

Congress Yesterday-The Question of Final Adjournment-The Apportionment Other Bills

The Senate concurrent resolution for the final adjournment of Congress on the 29th of May next came up in the House yesterday, and gave rise to an animated discussion, in which it was charged by the one side, and virtually admitted by the other, that it was a republican party movement, and that its uccess would be equivalent to a declaration that none of the great measures of financial relief or of pacification which are demanded by the people, without regard to party or to section, shall have attention at this session. Mr. Dawes, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, professed that he called it up only for the purpose of having an expression of the will of the House upon it, and was indifferent as to what the decision should be. Without taking any decided stand, he leaned evidently towards its adoption, and even resisted the motion made by Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, to refer it to his own committee-the Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Butler of Massachusetts, and Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, argued lustily in favor of its adoption, and made it in some sense a party question; but Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, and Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, opposed it quite as resolutely, on the ground that it would be impossible within the time proposed to dispose of the necessary measures of legislation. In this position they were backed by Messrs. Brooks and Cox, of this city, and by Messrs. Kerr and Holman, of Indiana. The result was the defeat of the proposition, at least for the present, by its reference to the Committee of Ways and Means, according to Mr. Farnsworth's motion. The vote was 129 to 77, all the democrats and revenue reformers voting for the reference. While Mr. Dawes was willing enough that the House should take the responsibility of the adjournment, he will be careful about his committee assuming that responsibility.

In the mass of propositions introduced in the House yesterday was a bill, for which Mr. Butl-r, of Massachusetts, stands sponsor, giving the suffrage to women; one coming from Mr. Hibbard, of New Hampshire, for the acquisition by the government of Independence Hall and square, in Philadelphia; and one offered by Mr. Voorbees, of Indiana, for the recognition of belligerent rights in the Cuban revolutionists. Mr. Voorhees tried to have it passed under a suspension of the rules, which required a majority of two-thirds; but he failed to get even a simple majority for it, the vote being 73 to 109, and then it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, together with a resolution offered by Mr. Brooks, of New York, for the interposition of the people of the United States in the pacification of Cuba and Mexico.

The old red sand stone-not that with which the name of Hugh Miller is identified. but that with which President Grant's name has been so much associated-was brought up again yesterday in the House by a resolution offered by Mr. Getz, of Pennsylvania, and adopted by the House, directing an inquiry as to the why and wherefore of the use of the Seneca stone in the foundations of the new State Department building in Washington, contrary to the orders of the joint Committee on Public Buildings.

An effort was made by Mr. Garfield to recall from the Senate a bill, which passed the House last week almost unnoticed, dating back pensions to the time of the discharge or death of the soldier-a bill which, it is stated by the Commissioner of Pensions, will take \$36,000,000 out of the Treasury, of Columbus reform conventions of February which a large proportion will go to enrich a may somewhat disturb the calculations of the horde of thieving claim agents. Mr. Garfield failed to carry his point; but he can secure his object fully as well by inducing the Senate to reject the bill or not to act upon it.

The only matter of public interest in the Senate was the Apportionment bill, if indeed anybody outside of Congress cares anything about it. The proposed amendment reducing the number of Representatives from 283 to 243 was rejected, and the bill was passed substantially as it came from the House.

STOKES, THE ASSASSIN OF FISK, was brought up yesterday in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, before Judge Ingraham. Upon District Attorney Garvin stating his readiness to proceed with the case the counsel for the prisoner moved to quash the indictment, upon the ground of informality and undue haste, and the alleged "outrageous" conduct of Judge Fullerton in helping the Grand Jury to form the indictment. Much wordiness and sparring were indulged in, and the scene was drawn to a close with the announcement by the Court that on Thursday next he would decide on the motion to quash. The natty prisoner was taken back to his cell in the

CINCINNATI IS BECOMING ALMOST AS GOOD PLACE for "notions" as the Athens of America. An "embryo clergyman" has been detected in the former place in purloining books from the public library for the purpose, as he alleges, of preparing his sermons, being too poor to purchase the works. Here is an opportunity for the exercise of the philanthropy of the Presbyterian "Sustentation" Commis-

BROOKLYN, the "City of Churches," is becoming the city of burglars, highwaymen and midnight murderers. They have parsons enough in Brooklyn; but they want more policemen. In the absence of needful proection from the authorities honest citizens and strangers in Brooklyn, who have to be out after dark, will act wisely in providing the ways and means to protect themselves.

AN INCOMPREHENSIBLE MOVE-The alleged attempt of United States Attorney Bates to have all the Mormon prisoners, of whatever crime accused, liberated on a reasonable amount of bail. Perhaps Attorney General Williams can explain, as such action would not be taken without his permission.

THE INTERNATIONAL IN BOHEMIA Is, according to German reports, making considerable headway in that country. It has lately been discovered that its ramifications are very extensive there. The present condition of Bohemia renders it a very fit residence for the Internationalists.

The Anti-Grant Republican Convention and Other Presidential Movem

The Missouri anti-Grant republicans, who hold the balance of power in that State, have called a national anti-Grant or "liberal republican" convention, to meet in Cincinnati on the 6th of May, to take such action in reference to the approaching Presidential contest "as may be deemed expedient." The real objects of this movement, however, are:-First, to ascertain the strength of the anti-Grant republicans outside of Missouri; and, secondly, if disclosed to be sufficient to justify the nomination of a ticket which will secure the support of the democratic party, the object is to nominate such ticket, on a sort of free trade, general amnesty and flexible State rights platform. The subsoil philosopher of Chappaqua thinks, too, that this convention "may prove a flasco," or that "it may name the next President;" and that it will name the successful man unless General Grant shall turn meantime the cold shoulder upon Senator Conkling and freely admit Mr. Fenton, Mr. Greeley and their outside friends to the flesh

pots and marrow bones of the Custom House. But this view of the question is the contracted view of the mere spoilsman, and does not cover the ground; and yet outside of Missouri, we suspect, there are very few anti-Grant republicans who are not disappointed office-seekers. Nor have we had, so far, any movements in behalf of this Cincinnati convention outside of Missouri. There is, to be sure, time enough in the interval to May to get up delegations to Cincinnati from every State; but as outside of Missouri these anti-Grant republicans desire first to see the upshot of the regular party convention at Philadelphia, we fear that the Cincinnati concern will not be illuminated to any great extent by the light of their countenances. So we judge from all the lights before us; but if in the interval to May we find General Coxe for Ohio, and Colonel McClure for Pennsylvania, and Mr. Scovel for New Jersey, and Messrs. Fenton and Greeley for New York, and Mr. Bowles for Connecticut, and Mr. Sumner for Massachusetts, and so on, each heading a considerable delegation of anti-Grant republicans, bound for Cincinnati, then we shall know that there is something in the wind.

From present appearances, however, the Cincinnati convention will be a fizzle, like the Independent Conservative Tyler Baltimore Convention of 1844, and the Cleveland Anti-Lincoln Republican Convention of 1864, and the Andy Johnson Philadelphia New Party Convention of 1866, and, without doing much, it will, probably, adjourn to meet again at the same time and place with the regular democratic convention. And, as every man who goes to this Cincinnati council of republican soreheads will be taking a new departure, it is probable that, except the Missouri out-andouters, most of them will stay at home until they can make a pretty clear calculation as to which will be the safe side, on the principle that-

while the lamp holds out to burn The vilest sinner may return.

But in advance of this Cincinnati New Party Convention there will be two others, and they are to come off at Columbus, Ohio, next month. We allude to the National Convention of the Labor Reformers and that of the Temperance Reformers. Each of these parties may nominate a Presidential ticket, or they may combine upon a joint stock labor and temperance reform ticket. The probabilities, however, are in favor of a ticket from each of these new parties, because, as we have seen in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, your labor reformer, as the rule, looks upon your cold water doctors with much of the contempt of an old line democrat. In any event these oliticians on all sides, and with these and two or three other Presidential parties in the field General Grant will have a fight as interesting as that of General Jackson, of 1832, against national republicans and anti-Masons and Southern Nulliflers, and most likely with the same general results.

THE HERALD AFRICAN EXPEDITIONS are a theme of appreciative comment with the journals of Europe as well as America. The official Vienna Gazette, among others, publishes an extract from the correspondence of the HERALD expedition in search of Livingstone, and contrasts the liberal spirit which prompted this great enterprise with the lukewarmness of the British government on the subject. Comments like these we take to be the expression of a just tribute rendered to American thought, American liberality and American enterprise, of which the HERALD is the national exponent, and which place it under the obligation of being the foremost pilot of progress everywhere-at home and in the most distant, secluded and uncivilized lands.

GOLD 110.-Gold touched 110 yesterday under a reaction from the depression excited earlier in the winter by the prospective refunding of six hundred millions of the public debt. Gold was run down out of all proportion to everything else, so much so that cotton is now a great deal higher in New York than in Liverpool. Speculators have taken advantuge of Mr. Boutwell's undue baste to bring the currency to a specie basis and are now manipulating the gold market to help this reaction. Gold, being merchandise, must be the dearest merchandise in the country, or it will go abroad to pay our debts. If Mr. Boutwell makes it cheap it becomes the readlest article to send abroad

THE LIBERAL POLICY LOOKING UP .- The Missouri Republican is quite exultant over the Missouri liberals in opening the Presidential campaign as they have just done. It rejoices that there is no standstill policy, no going back, but a move straightforward upon the enemy's works. How does this agree with the passive policy!

A Good Move. -Mr. Whitthorne, of Tennessee, wants Congress to pass a bill substituting legal tenders for the present national bank notes. This is one of the most sensible movements made in Washington this winter. Do away with the national banks, make the currency of the country uniform and save twenty nillion dollars annually.

GENERAL BUTLER has introduced a bill in Congress providing for woman suffrage. He evidently means to run again for Governor of

Poople-Divine Right Against Carr and Anarchy

Count de Chambord has addressed the French people in a manifesto. He claims the throne of the nation, and bases his claim on the elevated hereditary assumption of the divine right of legitimate kings. He does not temporize with the revolutionary democracy of France, but on the contrary repudiates its principle. He has carefully conserved the monarchical idea during forty years, and now asks an opportunity for its reasser-tion. Count de Chambord has, as our readers are aware, issued many manife of a similar import during the years of his exile from the Tuileries. The paper which we notice in the HERALD to-day appears to have somewhat more point and vim than its precursors. "Time presses," says the Count, "and alliances and reorganizations are urgent." And again, "Cæsarism and anarchy threaten France, because her salvation is sought in personal questions and not in principles." These latter sentences appear significant; the very last is, perhaps, too true.
What does the Count mean by "alliances?" Are they merely alliances of personal friends; or are they sacred pledges of the sympathy of sovereigns, who also believe in the efficacy of unction by the Divine Right chrism "Cæsarism or anarchy?" This is really well put, and judiciously, perhaps, for the cause of Chambord. France is pressed terribly by the imperious demands of the German Treasury for that war indemnity money. Here is a danger of Cæsarism and Teutonism combined. Then Bonaparte remains quietly at Chiselhurst, and in communication with his friends in France. Here is Cæsarism in the person of the man of the coup d'état and the historian of Cæsar. Count de Chambord sees thus an opportunity. He has seized it, and so presents to France a clean ticket, inscribed, "For divine right, restoration and a King," and no "scratching" of the paper permitted. Where will the Count find his General Monck?

The Audit and Apportionment Bill-Will the Governor Sign It?

It is said to be very questionable whether the bill passed last week by the State Legislature, creating a Board of Audit and Apportionment for the city and county of New York, will receive the Governor's assent. Governor Hoffman objects on principle to the creation of a Board of Apportionment and Audit possessing the power to pay away the public money and to regulate the expenditures of the city departments from which the executive and legislative branches of the city government-officers elected by the people-are altogether excluded. When the measure was before the Assembly we urged the propriety of making the President of the Board of Aldermen-a stanch republican and a genuine reformer-a member of the new temporary Board of Audit and Apportionment, and the House inserted John Cochrane's name in the bill. The Senate thought proper to strike it out, leaving the Board to be composed of the Comptroller, the President of the Department of Public Parks and the President of the Department of Public Works. This appeared to be peculiarly unfortunate, insomuch as it left upon a Board of Apportionment, composed of three members, two Commissioners of the Department of Parks (Messrs. Stebbins and Green), and while the fairness and integrity of both these gentlemen are unquestioned, it seemed objectionable that a single department of the city government should have this preponderating influence in such a Board. No reason was given for excluding from the bill the name of the President of the Board of Aldermen, but rumor attributed it to a concession to the anti-Fenton members of the Senate-a poor plea for botching and defacing legislation in a reform Legislature. The Governor is, however, urged to sign

the bill on the plea that an emergency exists which it is necessary to meet at once, and that as the measure is only a temporary one the principle he is understood to insist upon can for the moment be set aside. It is true that many contractors and employes of the city and county are still without the money that has been due to them for many months; but will they be paid when the signature of Governor Hoffman has been affixed to the bill and it has become a law? It is stated that some four million dollars have already been advanced to the Comptroller to pay off such claims as he desired to settle, and that the amount he asked for in the bill granting him extraordinary powers was mainly to repay these loans to the banks and trust companies from which he had received them. It this statement be correct it could not have been the intention of the Comptroller to pay many other of the city creditors, and he may yet refuse to do so. The bill as eventually passed by both houses of the State Legislature requires the concurrence of all the three members of the Board of Audit before a single claim can be paid, and thus enables a single member to obstruct all action-a curious way to meet a pressing emergency. It would at least have been far more satisfactory if the Comptroller had submitted to the Legislature a plain statement of the city finances before demanding any legislation on the subject. At present the usual annual statement is wanting, and the Legislature and the people are without any light as to our exact financial condition. Whether the bill receives the sanction of the Governor or is returned with his veto, the people would like to know exactly how much money has been loaned to the Comptroller by banks and trust companies, and how much is owing to employes, laborers and contractors who have honestly performed their obligations to the city.

THE EPIDEMIC OF MURDER AND SUICIDE. The public has been shocked of late with almost daily occurences in different parts of the country of murders or suicides, and some of them under the most mysterious and unaccountable circumstances. In this city and the mmediate neighborhood there has been lately an unusual number of these horrors. People wonder at the strange fatality that has come upon us, and endeavor to find a cause. Why, they ask, is it that so many fearful deeds of blood follow in quick succession just now? The cause is in the general demoralization of society, undoubtedly; but such events occur metimes like accidents by railroads, and in